

SAN DIEGO DX CLUB BULLETIN



Sept 2005



Bubba, W6ZPL says:

"We had a great time at the Bash, and look forward to having you next year in the LA area"



Join us at
The SIZZLER, Aero Drive & Murphy Canyon Rd
Sept 28, 2005 - Dinner, 6:00 P.M. - Meeting, 7:00 P.M
"The Voyage from New Zealand to Australia"



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The Prez speaks!!!



Wow, we have sure had some solar flares recently. On the fifth of this month during one of the big flares, I checked the high bands and not a signal could be heard except S9SS was 59 on 10 meters!! These conditions have made it rough to hear the rare ones although there have been some occasional tidbits. 75 and 80 are starting to quiet down and a weak European beacon has been heard.

Even with these less than starlet solar numbers, Juan and Paul did a great job from HP1. Welcome back guys and can't wait to hear about your trip.

The summer Bash was a great event thanks to all the work from our hosts, Jane and Glenn and everyone else who helped out. It was great to see everyone and spend time exchanging DX truths.

Speaking of social events, NN6R, Wayne Zimmerman has volunteered to host the club Christmas Party on December 3, 2005. Please save this date as it is always a great time.

John, K6AM and I recently met with the SCDXC regarding planning the 2006 DX Convention. As always, Southern California group is off to a great start. Our club will continue with tradition and assist with the registration effort.

BPL is alive in San Diego and testing by SDG&E will continue. At the upcoming meeting, a short recap will presented and discussion to follow.

Everyone have a good month remember DX is, Contests are, 73's Jim.

San Diego DX Club Policy

on content of

DX Bulletin and/or E-mail Reflector

The San Diego DX Club, a group of Amateur Radio operators, interested in the art of DXing, publish a monthly newsletter, and maintains an e-mail reflector where members and officers can post information of interest to other members.

Our policy is to print and/or post only information that is related to Amateur Radio, and not items of a political or religious nature, unless it has an impact on Amateur Radio, such as antenna ordinances, etc.

If a member wishes to have printed/posted any topic that is not Amateur Radio related, they can submit a copy to the club newsletter editor, webmaster, e-mail reflector moderator or any club officer, and the matter will be discussed and decided upon by the Board of Directors.

TREASURER'S REPORT

August 31, 2005

Balance as of Jul 31, 2005: \$3,370.38

Income: None

Expenses:

Speaker's Dinner: 8.07

Balance as of Aug 31, 2005: \$3,362.79

Petty Cash: 20.00

Total Checking/Petty Cash: \$3,382.79



MEETING MINUTES

August 21, 2005

There was no regular August meeting; however, in its place was the Southern California DX Summer Bash held at the home of Glenn Rattmann, K6NA in Valley Center on August 21, 2005. Our thanks go to Glenn and his lovely wife who were our hosts and who put in many hours of hard work to insure a successful Bash.

Over 100 southern California DXers were present on a very warm afternoon (an accurate count is next to impossible despite the efforts of several folks to get everyone to sign in the guest book).

The food and beverages were well received, especially, the albacore filets brought by Gayle Olson, K6GO. Jim, K6YI and Paul, WN6K were our principal chefs. Kudos also go to Gayle who arranged for the fancy stainless steel gas barbeque grill.

Receipts are being collected and it appears that the cost of the event will fall below the allocated amount. In addition, the SCDXC contributed \$300 to the event. The final tally will be reported in the next newsletter.

If for some reason you failed to make the Bash, it is your loss! Next year the Bash will be sponsored by the SCDXC and will be held somewhere in the Los Angeles/Orange County area.

The Bash ended when it ended whenever that was. A good time was had by most and many DX lies were told and retold.

Respectfully Submitted,

HARRY A. HODGES, W6YOO

Secretary/Treasurer

"The Voyage from New Zealand to Australia"



On the way there.....



Lelepa Island



Moored at Savusavu

.....a continuation of a two year voyage we made from San Diego to Mexico and then across the Pacific to New Zealand.

.....The presentation tells the story of our sail along that route with long stops in the tropics at Fiji, Vanuatu and New Caledonia. It was a voyage of just over 3600 nautical miles.

Clark N5XX tells us all about this maritime adventure at our next meeting.

Don't miss it!!

North Star Academy Ham Students

By Adam Klawonn

VISTA -- Twelve-year-old Christopher Anderson got his license Thursday. He joked that it's not much of a pickup line. After all, girls tend to be more interested in a guy with wheels than one with amateur radio privileges.

But Christopher, a student at North Star Academy, is enjoying the latter. He is Vista Unified School District's first licensed ham radio operator.

He took the Federal Communications Commission's test April 30 and was notified Thursday that he had passed.

His new name -- or call sign, in hamspeak -- is KG6ZGF. "You can talk to people all over the world," said Christopher, whose grandparents were ham radio operators.

"He's our first licensee," teacher Paul Dorey said. "We're very excited about that."

"Amateur, or 'ham,' radio has been around for almost 100 years. It is one of the cheapest wireless communication systems and attracts users of all ages and backgrounds from around the world.

The hobby was featured in such movies as "Frequency," in which Jim Caviezel's character used ham radio to solve a string of murders, and "Contact," in which a woman played by Jodie Foster was listening to her short-wave radio when she first heard radio transmissions from deep space.

The radios transmit in a straight, unobstructed line from one operator's antenna to another, called "line of sight," or bounce signals along the Earth's upper atmosphere to more distant destinations, including other countries.

North Star Academy is a public kindergarten-through-eighth-grade school that emphasizes small classes and home schooling. Other schools offer unusual classes -- San Dieguito High School Academy in Encinitas, for example, teaches welding, silk-screen printing and computer repair - but few offer ham radio.

The specialty courses cater to parents looking for programs that develop their children's creative interests and make learning more inviting.

Ham radio students at North Star helped set up the school's antenna. It connects with one atop Palomar Mountain for a 2,000- square-mile reach.

The students often talk over the radio with students at other ham radio classes at similar schools in Fallbrook and San Diego. They have spoken with ham radio operators as far away as Alaska.

It costs about \$150 for a transmitter and receiver, microphone and antenna, a negligible amount for wiring, and \$5 for the basic federal licensing test, which can be retaken as often as necessary and is good for 10 years.

After that, it's all chatter.

Christopher radioed other operators of his recent success while seated in the academy's cramped "ham shack" Thursday.

They crackled back with kudos from around North County.

"Congratulations," Oceanside-based operator K6ISS told him. "Welcome to ham radio."

"You go, guys," said an operator in Carlsbad. "Go get 'em."

Amateur radio is more than just a garage hobby. Two years ago, ham radio operators helped get the word out about the Cedar fire after the blaze had destroyed some cellular phone towers. That fire eventually blackened more than 273,000 acres and destroyed more than 2,000 homes.

The network of amateur radio enthusiasts was also helpful after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. They chattered with updates as cellular phone users lost service.

Vista Unified's first class specifically for ham radio started last January at North Star, then the district's home-education campus, with about 18 students.

Enrollment in the introductory class dwindled as students chose drama or other electives instead, Dorey said. But Christopher and classmates Julia Fitzmaurice and Bret Taitingfong came back for the advanced class.

They get science credit for the class, which meets at least four hours a week over seven weeks.

"It's something you can look forward to," said Julia, 14. "When you're bored, you can go to ham radio."

"It seems like a good hobby -- especially when you get old," said Bret, 12.

Both of them plan to take the FCC test May 14. Applicants are quizzed on electrical theory and ham radio rules, such as how often they must identify themselves.

Dorey, the teacher, has been a ham radio operator since 1975. He said he remembers speaking over the airwaves with operators in Russia during the height of the Cold War.

"Government (talk) is out the window," he said. "We're just friends, and that promotes good will around the world."

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Scenes from Bash 2005!!!



DX IS!!



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